



# SOUTHAMPTON TOWN YOUTH COURT

116 Hampton Road  
Southampton, New York 11968  
(631) 702-2424



Karen Matz-L'HommeDieu  
Coordinator

Nancy C. Lynott  
Youth Bureau Director

## **Youth Court Code of Conduct**

1. **Attendance at all training sessions is mandatory in order to participate in the program. You, not your parent or friend, must call or e-mail Ms. Matz (kmatz@SouthamptonTownNY.gov) if you cannot attend a training class. Not notifying the coordinator will cause a delay in your participation of cases.**
2. Any member who is assigned to a youth court trial and **fails to show up to the case will be suspended from the next trial!**
3. As a Youth Court member you are expected to be courteous, respectful and pay attention to the coordinator/trainers. This includes no side conversations, text messaging or note passing.
4. There is no eating, drinking or gum chewing in the courthouse at any time or any reason. Please keep the courtroom clean.
5. If you are a member of a social networking group, like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram you must have appropriate content on your page/profile. This includes but not limited to your wall posts, status updates, photos and comments. Remember if you don't want your mother doing it, seeing it or hearing about it, then don't do it!!
6. Youth Court members are to treat other members with respect and courtesy at all times, both in Youth Court and outside of Youth Court.
7. You are expected to uphold confidentiality of **ALL** matters dealt with by the court. Since we will be dealing with Family Court matters: **ALL CASES MUST BE KEPT PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**. You will be asked to sign a statement that you understand that it is against our rules and regulations to speak about these matters. **Any breach of confidentiality will result in immediate dismissal from Youth Court.** This means you cannot talk about the case to your parents, friends, teachers, school administrators, other youth court members or family pet.
8. You are expected to refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco products and all other illegal substances at any time.
9. Any member that is charged with violating any law may be dismissed from the youth court program at the discretion of the youth court coordinator(s).
10. As a Youth Court Member, you are expected to follow the rules and code of conduct of your school district.
11. **During court sessions members are expected to dress professionally and act in a manner appropriate for the courtroom. No sneakers are to be worn during court sessions. Please tuck in youth court shirts.**
12. **Attorney's MAY NOT interview or meet with a witness or respondent in public for any reason!** You must let Ms. Matz know if you set up an appointment with a witness or respondent.
13. Where there is a reasonable belief that any Youth Court member has violated a youth court rule or regulation, that person may be subject to suspension or dismissal from the program, at the discretion of the Coordinator(s).

**All decisions regarding the Youth Court are at the entire discretion of the Youth Court Coordinator(s) and all decisions are final.**



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I \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ have read, understand and agree to the Youth Court Code of Conduct. As the parent/guardian of said child, ***I understand that I need to be on time when picking up*** my child either at the Justice Court or bus stop. If I fail to do so my child may not be allowed to participate in the Youth Court program and/or ride the Youth Bureau bus.

By signing this agreement, I also give permission to the Southampton Town Youth Bureau to take photos of my child which may be used in publications such as advertisements, newsletters, web pages, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent Name Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the Youth Court member, have read, understand and agree to the Youth Court Code of Conduct. As the member of Youth Court I will abide by these rules to the best of my ability. I will report to Ms. Matz if I knowingly break a rule stated in the code of conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Members Name Printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Members Signature)